

PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No.: 5045.2.1D

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Vincent S. Darago and Christopher Jenkins
Serial No.: 10/609,325
Filed: June 27, 2003
For: Computer architecture for managing courseware in a
shared use operating environment
Art Unit: 2452
Examiner: Hieu T. Hoang

APPELLANT'S BRIEF
(Twice Corrected Section)

Honorable Commissioner for Patents:

In response to a Notice of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief mailed December 8, 2010 and received December 11, 2010, and guidance kindly provided by Supervisory Paralegal Deborah L. Perry during a telephone discussion December 13, 2010, the undersigned submits a revised Summary of Claimed Subject Matter section of the Appeal Brief filed November 9, 2010. In this submission, references to the published application and to the parent application have been removed as required by the Office.

Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The claimed invention provides tools and techniques for managing courseware and other content in a shared use operating environment such as a computer network. (Abstract)
Courseware and other content managed by the system may contain one or more "critical portions" which have been treated to prevent their unauthorized use and thereby enhance the protection of intellectual property rights in the content by technical means. (Brief Summary)

Some embodiments provide the aspects noted below. Drawing reference numbers are given below in parentheses; page P and line number L references are in the form [P:L] and refer to the specification as filed 06/27/2003 in application 10/609,325 , e.g., [11:19-12:7] means page 11 line 19 through page 12 line 7, [11:10-18] means page 11 lines 10 through 18:

131. (Figures 3-5, 7) A method for managing content in a shared use operating environment, the shared use operating environment including a registration server (108), a content server (110) connectable by a network link to the registration server, and a client workstation (114) connectable by a client-server network communications link to the content server, the method comprising the steps of:

- registering [40:5-13] (700), a user at the registration server, thereby characterizing the user as a registered user;
- receiving at the content server a request (604) by the registered user for access to content (400) which contains at least one previously treated critical portion [11:19-12:7];
- authenticating [11:10-18] (610) the request;
- serving [11:10-18] at least the critical portion over the client-server network communications link (116) for presentation to the registered user at the client workstation;
- preventing [11:19-12:7] a copy of the critical portion of the content from being created on nonvolatile storage [17:1-12] at the client workstation at least in part by disabling caching and other disk writes, and
- sending [27:9-17] another portion of the content to nonvolatile storage at the client workstation.

132. (Figures 6 and 7) A method for managing content in an operating environment that includes peer-to-peer nodes [18:8-18], the method comprising the steps of:

- registering [40:5-13] (700) users;
- checking user passwords [20:19-21:10, 34:21-35:5] to prevent unregistered users from receiving content services;
- receiving at a first peer node a request (604) by a registered user for access to content (400) which contains at least one previously treated critical portion [11:19-12:7];
- serving [11:10-18] at least the critical portion over a network communications link (116) to a second peer node for presentation (712, 718, 720) to the registered user;
- preventing [11:19-12:7] a copy of the critical portion of the content from being created on nonvolatile storage [0058] at the second peer node, at least in part by disabling caching and other disk writes, and
- sending [27:9-17] another portion of the content to nonvolatile storage at the second peer node.

Note that the drawing reference numbers refer not only to the drawings but also to the specific locations in the text where the reference numbers are recited. The Office can readily determine those locations by searching a copy of the application. Also, the citations to drawings and text above are only examples; other parts of the specification may also be pertinent.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this Appeal Brief (Twice Corrected Section) is being submitted to the Commissioner for Patents through EFS-WEB, on December 13, 2010.

/John W. Ogilvie/

Respectfully submitted,

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